

Timeline
AC 01 Indian Arts Fund Records

Notes of events in the records from 1922 to 1959

1922

Pueblo Pottery Fund began to collect

1925

changed name to Indian Arts Fund to reflect the organization's intention to "preserve other forms of Indian art, such as textiles, jewelry, etc." (IAF Chronology)

1925-26

began to set aside money for a permanent building and set up committee to begin planning. As of 1926 "now housed in the basement or "Pottery Room" of the New Museum (now known as the Fine Arts Museum)

1927

July 5, at annual meeting under heading "Inter-Museum Relations:" Kidder "spoke of possibilities of the IAF in connection with a proposed Anthropological Laboratory and Museum in Santa Fe, and told of work which has been done to bring about this institution."

Sept 13, Kidder "presented plan for the Museum and Laboratory of Anthropology—suggested that IAF loan it's collection to Laboratory as soon as suitable housing provided."

Oct 11,

Arts and Crafts:

"Indian Fair Committee requested that the IAF accept the Committee as a permanent sub-committee to continue work of the Indian Fair—finances to be kept separate. Motion to accept proposal, carried."

Inter-Museum Relations:

"Resolution pledging support of Laboratory of Anthropology read and accepted."

1929

July 1

collection now totals 1229 specimens (pottery and blankets)

September 10 Executive Committee

Inter-Museum Relations:

"New quarters must be found to house collection. Dr. Hewett requested removal of collection from the New Museum by November 1. Dr. Morley said Laboratory of Anthropology would pay rent until January 1930 on new quarters.

"Sena Plaza Corporation offered donation of \$525.00 to pay rent in Sena Plaza (5 rooms) up to January 1930."

October 1

Collections: curator reported acquisitions of Indian paintings, blankets and Pima baskets
Inter-Museum Relations: “Resolution regarding relationship of IAR and Lab. of Anthro. Whereby Lab. of Anthro. Will maintain offices and the IAF collections in Sena Plaza until completion of Laboratory building.

1931

Jesse L. Nusbaum (Director of Lab) reported that due to certain complications having arisen between IAR and Lab. Of Anthro. Trustees, on the sum of \$500.00 would be matched by the Lab of Anthro. For the year 1930.

1933

“Policy with regard to the separate functions of the IAF and the Lab. of Anthro., as well as the combined functions of the two organizations, were of great concern to the two groups during this period.”

1934

“Still much discussion of POLICY.”

1936

“Discussion of future of IAF in view of uncertain prospects of Laboratory of Anthropology.”

“Kenneth M. Chapman reported the Laboratory of Anthropology to be in good condition but future is uncertain. IAF would have profound influence but must assert itself to avoid being absorbed into an undesirable plan.”

1937

Feb 8 “Laboratory of Anthropology affairs now straightened out and all is well.”

July 12 “Future activities of IAF under discussion (no details).”

1938

May 20 “Meeting called to work out an affiliation between Lab. of Anthro. and IAF.”

“Dr. Scudder Mekeel (Director of Lab.) suggested that the IAF be the agency for collecting funds for purchase of material for both the Lab. of Anthro. and the IAF.”

July 18 “Further discussion of proposed legal affiliation of Lab of Anthro. and IAF.”

Aug 8 “Trustees ratified action taken by Active Members on the Lab. of Anthro. – IAF agreement”

Note: Kenneth Chapman director of Lab from 1940-42

1942

April 6 Chairman announced the successful completion of financing the Laboratory program fro 1941 and outlined plans for 1942 with continuing co-operation of Lab. of Anthro. and IAF.

July 6 Discussion of the change of Directors of the Laboratory of Anthropology. It was felt that the new director, Dr. J. H. Zimmerman, would make no changes in policy between Lab. of Anthro. and IAF.

1946

Jan 14 Report on the state of affairs between Lab of Anthro. and IAF. Kenneth M. Chapman and H.P. Mera requested to prepare copies of the agreements in their various stages of development, for study in the near future.

March 23 an agreement between the Laboratory of Anthropology and the Indian Arts Fund, for the commingling of the collections, was executed over the signatures of Kenneth M. Chapman, Chairman of IAF and Maurice Reis, Director of Lab of Anthro.

July 1 Discussion of recent agreement between Lab. of Anthro. and IAF providing for commingling of collections. Regulations considered. Contract ratified.

1947

July 7 Re: Merger of Laboratory of Anthropology with Museum of New Mexico and School of American Research. (no quorum—meeting to be called later...)

Sept 8 Dr. S.G. Morley, Director of the three combined institutions (...) gave an account of the negotiations, pointing out advantages of these negotiations to IAF. Discussion.

1948

July 12 Dr. S.G. Morley (Director-Museum of N.M.) brought up the matter of the contract between lab. of Anthro. and IAF which provides that IAF collections are to be removed from Lab. in case Lab. becomes State or Federal Institution.

Discussion-IAF feels it is desirable that collections could not be separated. Matter to be considered and decision made at future special meeting.

July 26 MUCH discussion (of above), no decision, situation to be investigated

Dec 30 Discussion of the status of IAF in relation to the School of American Research. Membership drive postponed until status of IAF is cleared up after the Legislature meets.

1949

July 11 Discussion of possibility of obtaining exhibition building for IAF. Construction of another building in the Lab of Anthro. complex discussed. Meeting to be called to acquaint people with collection and arouse interest.

1954

Jan 27 Curator reported in answer to recent queries that although collections of IAF and Lab. of Anthro. are separately owned and separately cataloged the two collections complement one another and form a single assemblage of material for research and exhibition.

1957

Jan 10 Discussion of future of IAF. Opinion that it is best for the collection to remain under control of private, non-political organization such as IAF; doubt expressed that the educational and exhibitive phase of IAF's work can be continued since Lab of Anthro and Museum of NM staff members will be in charge from now on. (IAF a holding company now and actually so for several years past)

1957

July 11 Non-employees of the Museum of NM within the IAF will have to carry the active program of the IAF from now on. Committee appointed to “explore” possibilities for future programs and organization of IAF.

1958

Jan 9 Clarification of differences between functions of IAF and Lab of Anthro with regard to publications.

1. IAF had nothing to do with formulation of Lab of Anthro policy
2. Lab of Anthro can handle non-Museum publications through purchase by Museum of said publications
3. Qualified personnel granted use of collections for research in connection with publications—IAF could be granted the same privileges.

Nov 13 Request by Dr. Fred Wendorf (Associated Director of Lab of Anthro) to attend all IAF meetings.

Decision: Invite Dr. Wendorf to attend each time business of mutual concern to be discussed.

Discussion of status of IAF and Lab of Anthro. Contract between IAFD and Lab of Anthro abrogated in 1947 with merger—new agreement needed.

1959

July 9 IAF Executive Committee empowered to meet with new Board of Regents or the Director of Museum of NM for clarification of position of affiliated organizations with Museum of NM. This proposed discussion has awaited the appointment of the new Board of Regents of Museum of NM.

Kenneth M. Chapman reported that only one staff member is on duty on week-ends in the entire Lab building; no one is downstairs to guard pottery room. Concern expressed by IAF – will consult Museum about this matter.

Oct 22

Kenneth M. Chapman reviewed the history of the IAF.

W.J. Keller explained the policy of the Board of Regents with regard to affiliated organizations.

1. Board will face problems with an open mind
2. Board does not intend to take sides
3. All affiliated organizations will be welcome at meetings if their business is on the agenda.
4. IAF must consider the responsibilities of the Museum; decadent views and selfish interests must be discarded
5. Board will have no sympathy for pressure groups or “pet” projects
6. Board will accept nothing with strings attached; all contracts are cancelled; policy will be set by Board; all new agreements must be acceptable to Board.